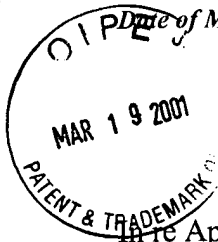


Date of Mailing: March 19, 2001

Akin Gump No. 044220.0322



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicant:

JAMES D. BENNETT

Filed: October 23, 2000

Serial No.: 09/695,718

For: COMBINED OPTICAL AND
RADIO FREQUENCY TAG
READER§
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Art Unit: 2876

Examiner: J. FUREMAN

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**Box No Fee Amendments**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to consideration of the application, please amend the claims as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-32.

Please add claims 33-57 as follows:

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33. (New) A device that reads a plurality of information tags, the device comprising:

an antenna;

an first processing circuit that generates information from a first information tag;

and

an second processing circuit, coupled to the antenna, that utilizes the information to communicate with a second information tag, wherein the second information tag is of a different type than the first information tag.